

## **REMARKS**

Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 8, 9, 24, 25, 30, 31, 34, 35, 37-40 and 43 are pending and are rejected.

Claims 1, 24, 30, and 34 have been amended.

Applicant respectfully requests consideration of the following arguments.

### **CLAIM REJECTIONS 35 U.S.C. §102**

Claims 34-35 and 37-40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by SU1685448.

The Examiner states that this rejection “was made in the two office actions prior to the most recent request for continued examination and was inadvertently omitted from the previous office action. In the amendment filed with the RCE, Applicant had amended the other pending claims to change transitional phrasing from “comprising” to “consisting essentially of” and the Examiner inadvertently attributed this amendment to apply to claims 34-35 and 37-40.”

Applicant requests that the Examiner provide clarification of the reason for rejection because Applicant’s June 3, 2005 Response and August 15, 2005 Preliminary Amendment to be considered with the RCE did not amend claims 34-35 and 37-40 to change the transitional phrasing from “comprising” to “consisting essentially of” as indicated by the Examiner. Claims 1, 24, 26, 30, and 32, not claims 34-35 and 37-40, were amended to recite “consisting essentially of” in Applicant’s August 5, 2004 Amendment.

Applicant now amends independent claim 34 to recite hydrolase/protease concentrations ranging from about  $1 \times 10^{-5}\%$  w/v to about  $1 \times 10^{-3}\%$  w/v or from about  $1\%$  w/v to about  $10\%$  w/v supported at least on page 16, lines 6 to 9. SU 1685448 does not disclose these ranges, thus Applicant requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

### **CLAIM REJECTIONS 35 U.S.C. §103**

Claims 1-2, 4-5, 8-9, 24-25, 30-31, 34-40, and 43 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as obvious over SU 1685448 in view of Rawlings, Tenta, Zaias, and Burbach.

Applicant has amended independent claims 1, 24, 30, and 34 to recite hydrolase/protease concentrations ranging from about  $1 \times 10^{-5}\%$  w/v to about  $1 \times 10^{-3}\%$  w/v or from about  $1\%$  w/v to about  $10\%$  w/v supported at least on page 16, lines 6 to 9. There is no suggestion, teaching, or motivation to combine SU 1685448 with Rawlings, Tenta, Zaias, and Burbach to result in Applicant's invention, thus Applicant requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

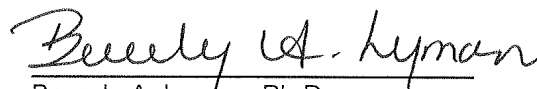
### **CONCLUSION**

Applicant does not believe any other fees are due in connection with filing this response other than a fee of \$395.00 for the RCE required under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(e) and a fee of \$510.00 for a 3-month extension of time as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a). Should any additional fees be required, authorization is hereby given to charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 23-3000.

The Examiner is invited to contact applicant's undersigned representative with any issues or questions.

Respectfully submitted,

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